

Himalayan Times

The voice of the Darjeeling Hills

Kalimpong *Vol. 3 • Issue 3 October 2006 Rs. 6/-

* mongol community of
kalimpong

* POLITICAL HISTORY OF
DARJEELING

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* THEIR WORDS
OUR VOCABULARY

EARTHQUAKES
ARE WE PREPARED???

EDITORIAL

Remember the Bermuda Triangular... that infamous expanse of the deep seas off the coast of the Caribbean where ships, all thousands of tons of them, just disappeared into thin air while voyaging through it???

Has Darjeeling too become a miniature version of the Bermuda Triangular? The only difference being that here people seem to vanish into thin air rather than ships. It sure seems to have become one- how else could one explain someone just disappearing like as though it's a magic trick, that too all of a sudden and that too someone who had been the center of attraction for the entire media, the entire political fraternity as well as the law enforcers??? Yes I am talking of the mysterious disappearance of Lakpa Rynden who just managed to evaporate off the face of this earth.

The prime accused in the over 5 crore Sarva Siksha Abhiyan scam, Rynden, ideally should have and I am sure was a watched man. By watched I mean our guys in the Intelligence Bureau must have been definitely keeping their radars tuned towards Rynden after the scam surfaced into the public eye. Ideally, being people who are paid their salaries just to keep their eyes and ears open our very own Sherlock Homes should have been following every single footstep Rynden took and every singly word that he uttered- so what happened to these guys while Rynden was packing his bags and stashing his ill gotten fortune before making a clean get away???

If my knowledge of the English language is even fair enough, which I hope it is being the editor of an English newsmagazine, I think this entire disappearance affair is what they call in the English language as an "Intelligence failure".

What is even more shocking is that no one seems concerned enough to ask why or how Rynden was allowed such a clean get away. It's a shame that someone with as noted a face and someone as high ranking a bureaucrat as Lakpa Rynden is allowed to vanish without a trace that too when we have people who are paid just so that crooks like these do not get away so easily.

The Intelligence guys still have a chance to redeem their image and they can do so by finding out where the scamster is before he has the opportunity to fully swallow up the money, which was actually meant for our children.

DO YOU HAVE ANY THING THAT
YOU WANT TO SHARE WITH THE
REST OF
DARJEELING???
HAVE YOUR SAY AT **YOUR PAGE**

Dear Sir,

While appreciating the quality of the magazine that the Himalayan Times team is coming out with, I as a reader and well wisher of the magazine would like to suggest the following so that the only English publication that comes out from the Darjeeling Hills and which we can call our very own, can further attract its readers.

1. We would appreciate if the magazine is printed in colour rather in just two colours. I know it is an expensive affair but you and your team will definitely gain more readers if a more colourful exterior is given to the readers.
2. More current news should be printed. I would suggest a round up of the entire news generated during the month in Darjeeling and Kalimpong is printed in the magazine so that readers can keep themselves abreast of the latest happenings.
3. Although the magazine is increasing in size and has become twenty-four pages now a few more pages could still be added.
4. I would suggest that some political news should also be given in your magazine rather than not having any. Those with interest in politics would like to know what their favourite magazine has to say about the political affairs in the Hills.
5. Lastly, you could start a column wherein readers could discuss their personal experiences with others.

Please do not take the above as shortcomings of your magazine but rather suggestions to improve an already good magazine. The fact that you have been in circulation for more than three years now and have a dedicated readership itself is a tribute to the efforts you and your team have put into the magazine.

Bhanu Sharma

11th Mile

Kalimpong

Dear Editor,

Does anyone actually care for the plight of the poor suffering people of Kalimpong??? Despite the claims of our so-called leaders and civil administrators, the ground reality is that Kalimpong is like an orphaned child left to fend for itself.

Kalimpong has become like a pitiable and helpless woman who has no guardian and can have her modesty outraged by any person who wishes to. We as a town have had our modesty outraged several several times by different people and in different ways yet nothing has been done to build up any resistance against such outrages in future. Whether it was Subham or several chit fund companies who defrauded us or it be a fancy named club called "Club Wayside" or for that matter so many other, we in Kalimpong have always been duped just because the people entrusted to speak for us have not done so. Now it the turn of NHPC to molest us!!! First they come and take away our river, dam it and put us in perpetual risk now they have destroyed our road which is our life line. The surprising thing is that neither our politicians nor administrators nor glorified NGO's nor our otherwise active media has rises any voice against this rape of Kalimpong. Have they suddenly lost their voices or are they too busy preparing for and celebrating Dasain that they do not have the time for such trifle matters???

Through this magazine maybe a suggestion can be sent that perhaps it is time for all of us long suffering Kalimpong to take matters in our own hands rather than depending on others to speak for us.

Saroj Bhitrikoti

Lower Bridle Road, Kalimpong

Kalimpong

Custom made just for the Hills

Our roads may be outrageous, or petrol may be adulterated, our traffic may be chaotic and our cops regulation our traffic may have sticky fingers but still Bike lovers in the region have something to celebrate about. S.J.Choppers, a Bike designer based in Kalimpong has started customizing bikes. It has created the “Red Hot Chopper” which is one of its kind in the region and possibly even in the country.

Choppers were home built bikes with all extra accessories striped off and custom built to suit the owner's tastes and needs. Steven Bhutia, owner and builder at S.J.Chopper says, “I wanted to make a line of Choppers that everyone would want to have and one you never find anywhere else.”

The basic bike used is a 350cc Royal Enfield Bullet.



Marching Bands dazzle Kalimpong audience

The 2nd Annual Inter School Band Display Competition was held by the Sasonian Alumni Association to celebrate the over sixty years of existence of St. Augustines' School.

Eleven Schools from Kalimpong and around participated in the event with more than five hundred school children taking part in this one of its kind event.

SUMI with their Pipe Band was adjudged the Winners with the Flute Band of Girls High School taking the second spot. Dr. Grahams Homes and St. Augustines' School took the third and fourth positions respectively.

Kalimpong College

Man & woman of Substance

Freshers in Kalimpong College were given a rousing welcome by way of a Beauty Pageant which was aimed at selecting the “Man of Substance” and “Woman of Substance” from within the College students for the year 2006-2007.

From a group of twenty finalists, ten boys and ten girls, the winners by unanimous choice, were Ujjwal Basnet in the Boys Category and Binita Pradhan in the Girls Category.

5 feet seven inches tall, Binita Pradhan, a student of BA 3rd year, this years Woman of Substance, incidentally a NCC cadet had also represented Bengal in this years Republic Day parade held in New Delhi. This programme was preceded by a cultural and musical function which was attended by various dignitaries of the town.



MONGOLIAN

Mongolian Mystery of Kalimpong unraveled

COMMUNITY

Sandip C. Jain



Kalimpong down the ages have been a magnet attracting royalties, aristocrats and noblemen from all round the world – Prince Peter of Greece & Denmark, the Roerichs from Russia, the Burmese Royalty, the Afghan Prince, the Bhutanese royalty and several others have made Kalimpong their own in different periods of the towns not so long history. The period starting the early 1940's till the mid 1960's especially was one where Kalimpong came to be known for attracting several many of very high quality people from across the globe. Besides the royalty and noblemen, the town also became a favoured destination for scholars and learned men from all quarters of the world and hence it was natural that the common folks from across the globe too followed them here. The Chinese had a large presence here so did the Tibetans and to a smaller extent the Burmese, but this comes as no surprise considering the geographical location the town occupied being bang in the center of the India – Tibet(China) trading route. What definitely is surprising is that Kalimpong also had a large presence of people from a land far far away with which it had no geographical boundaries and no known direct contacts- the far off land being Mongolia which besides being thousands of Kilometers away also has several countries between itself and Kalimpong.

The story of their presence actually lies intermingled in a complex web of international and national politics as well as religious beliefs and the changing world order of those times.

The Mongolian community in Kalimpong during the middle of the 20th Century was actually a miniature version of those existing in Tibet before the Chinese invaded the 'Roof of the World'. The movement of the

Mongol community towards the Darjeeling Hills, more specifically towards Kalimpong, was forced by the forcible occupation of Buddhist Tibet by Communist China.

Mongolia & Buddhism are said to have a very long association, infact even during the times of the great Chinggis Khan and his grandson Khubaili Khan, Buddhism is known to have had its presence in parts of Mongolia if not the whole of the country- a lull followed. It was during the times of HH Sonam Gyatso the 3rd Dalai Lama, the highest ranking Lama in the Gelupa school of Tibetan Buddhism, that Buddhism actually took firmer roots in Mongolia. In 1578, a meeting between the 3rd Dalai Lama and Altan Khan actually led to Buddhism laying a stronger foundation in the whole of Mongolia. It is said that it was in this meeting that the title of 'Dalai Lama' was first conferred upon the head of the Gelupa Sect of Tibetan Buddhism and he is known as such till date. Thus started the active interaction between the Mongols and the Tibetans.

Many in Mongolia having embraced the teachings of Buddha became Monks and traveled to Tibet to study the religion and master its holy scriptures. The interaction was not limited only to religious affairs only- trade too opened up between the two countries and hence a regular two way movement between the two countries commenced.

Over a period of time the Mongol monks came to establish their presence wherever a larger body of Tibetan Buddhist community existed. Gradually over a period of time several leading Buddhist institutions of Tibet like those in

Kambum, Labrang, Dre-pung and others created a special section specially for Buddhist monks and scholars from Mongolia.

Mongolians, whether scholars or monks or just ordinary pilgrims, called both Tibet and India as “Burhanil-Oran” meaning ‘the land of the Buddha’. Those who traveled to Tibet usually extended their travel into India and visa-versa.

This very vibrant interaction between Mongolia and Tibet and to a smaller extent India lasted till the very early part of the 20th Century. Then came the storm... in 1911 the Chinese nationalist movement overthrew the Manchurian Empire which had ruled China, Mongolia, Tibet and other Central Asian countries. Outer Mongolia too soon managed freedom from the Manchurian rule though Inner Mongolia still was in a politically unstable state. Communism soon established its hold over China & Russia and believers of Buddhism as also other religions soon found themselves in a position where their very own country was inhospitable to them and not conducive for them to follow, propagate or practice their own religion. Many of these monks and scholars made a beeline for Inner Mongolia where the communists still had not stuck roots. In 1940 when Inner Mongolia too was overrun by believers of the communist ideology, these monks and scholars had to plan another escape- this time the exodus was

towards Tibet. Lhasa soon was teeming with monks from Mongolia, both with the newly arrived ones and also with those who were there from earlier times.

Experience had made the monks from Mongolia wiser and hence even before the Chinese (read Communists) actually entered Tibet, the Mongolian monks saw it coming and fled to safer havens into newly formed secular India where religious freedom and

tolerance was probably more than in any other country of the region. Those of the Mongolian monks who stayed behind in Tibet eventually made their way into India in the footsteps of the present Dalai Lama who entered into India in 1959 and took up home in Dharamsala.

Upon entering India, the Mongolian monks who traveled with their Tibetan

counterparts found the Hills of Darjeeling ideally suited for their stay. Being in the middle of the trade route to Tibet, Kalimpong with its ideal climate and conducive intellectual environment attracted a large number of monks and scholars into it. Infact even before 1959, Kalimpong already was home to several many highly regarded scholars, monks and religious leaders from across the world. It had already acquired a name for itself as an academic centre for Himalayan & Tibetan studies.

The influx of so many foreigners also infamously and unfairly earned Kalimpong the name of “a nest of spies”. In 1959, the then Prime Minister of India Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru for the first time in a interview with the US bases Time magazine called Kalimpong as a nest of spies. Though research now shows that the Peking(Beijing) based daily “Peoples Daily” probably was the first to call Kalimpong ‘a nest of spies’ and that probably Nehru just picked it up from there.

The Mongols who settled down in Kalimpong were



Lama Chimpa

Professor Lama Chimpa was born in 1920 in Inner Mongolia. Studied Buddhist Theology and Philosophy for eight years in the Dre-pung Monastery, Lhasa, Tibet. He came to India in 1950. Lama Chimpa taught in different institutions in India for 33 years, until he retired in 1994. Professor Lama Chimpa is knowledgeable in seven languages: Mongolian (mother tongue), Tibetan, Hindi, English, Nepali, Bengali and Sanskrit.

Lama Chimpa did research works on various aspects of Buddhism as well as Tibetan and Mongolian studies. Some of his books included: *Taranatha's Buddhism in India*, translated jointly by A. Chattopadhyaya and Lama Chimpa; *A Spoken Mongol-English Dictionary* by Lama Chimpa; *The Biography of Atisha Dipamkara* translated from Tibetan jointly by Lama Chimpa and A. Chattopadhyaya. He has about 40 published articles written in English, Hindi, Bengali and Tibetan, on different topics on Buddhism, as well as Mongolian and Tibetan studies.

The longest teaching position he occupied was at Visva Bharati University in Shanti Niketan, near Kolkata (Calcutta). He worked as the head of Indo-Tibetan Studies at the university, which was founded by Rabindranath Tagor in the early 20th century.

Lama Chimpa lives in Kalimpong with his wife.



A Young Lama Chimpa

mostly monks though later many married, some within the community while others to Tibetans and they eventually formed a community within Kalimpong. The community thus formed was a small though the talent it possessed was quite admirable and enviably. It consisted of some very highly regarded scholars and academics, very high ranking Lamas,

religious leaders and noble families. Kalimpong gained immensely from scholars like Lama Chimpa, Da-Lama, Rigzin Wangpo, Geshe Wangyal, Geshe Kaldan, Geshe Agwang Nima and several others. Lama Chimpa (see box) who still is a resident of the town living in the Madhuban area of the town, has worked with the great Russian scholar George Roerich and helped him in compiling the Tibetan- Sanskrit dictionary. He also had a long association with Viswa Bharati University in Shantineketan (Bolpur) which was set up by Rabindranath Tagore. Another Mongolian scholar, Rigzin Wangpo, who was the son of a Buryat Mongol who was an Electrical engineer and who help set up the first electrical network in Tibet, was a Kalimpong bases scholar, writer, poet and journalist. Infact some of his works were published in Himalayan Times in the 1950's. The Chinese always viewed Kalimpong as a hotbed of Political activities against it. Sadly India and Nehru took a similar view and so following the India-Sino conflict of 1962, all those who were viewed as

controversial persons and whom the government thought would be hindrances to the *Hindi-Chini Bhai Bhai* concept, were forcibly removed from Kalimpong and relocated to special settlements in Mussorie which is now in the state of Uttaranchal. Gradually the community in Mussorie migrated to different places many to the West, in search of greened pastures.

But the pull of Kalimpong was too strong for people like Lama Chimpa who after working in different institutions in India for more than three decades came back to settle down in Kalimpong with his wife and still resides here till date.

His contributions along with those of several other Mongol scholars and monks will always be something Kalimpong will be proud to be associated with. ■

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www.intermongol.net

www.rmaf.org.ph

www.american-buddha.com

Lama Chimpa adds....

While speaking about Mongols in Kalimpong, some important persons are needed to be mentioned.

* Sango Emche as called by Tibetans - his name is Kwantum Choimzad. He has his house below the Shamshan Ghat in Tripai where he lived completely alone. I met him once when he was 102 years alone. He was a very good physician and Tibetans used to visit him for treatment of physical ailments. The renowned Dr. George Roerich and Bhutan's Rani Chummi Dorjee were great admirers of him. He did not charge/take any fees from anyone and used to say that he had enough medicines for his treatment and had enough money for his survival.

* Another high ranking monk Ochurdar from Outer Mongolia lived in Mr. Damber Singh Gurung's house in Tripai with his two followers named Dharmapal and Shithar. He used to be a good soothsayer- Mokhepa.

* Sango Dharma used to be a wonderful artist and lived at Haat Bazaar with his Tibetan wife and three children. He used to make wonderful artifacts from ivory and sandalwood mostly Tibetan (artifacts) ornamental items.

Generally speaking Kalimpong was very famous in Tibet and Mongolia. Some even thought that Kalimpong was the other name for India. So anyone coming from these countries to India always made it a point to visit Kalimpong and some many stayed back to make Kalimpong their home.

e^a r t h q u a k e

Are we prepared ????



■ By Ville Saikku

Kalimpong sits comfortably on the Himalayan Belt, one of the most earthquake prone areas in the world. As there hasn't been a major earthquake exceeding *M*8 in the last fifty years, the town has grown and expanded, seemingly oblivious to the dangers lurking underneath the surface. How many buildings have been built without proper procedures against earthquakes, how many people furnish their houses according to taste rather than safety, and how have you planned for the worst possible scenario?

History

There has been many references made to earthquakes, ever since the time of enlightenment of Buddha c. 558 BC, but like many earthquakes since then, they have been short and undistruptive passages in semireligious texts. These earthquakes lack indefinable data, so they cannot be fully confirmed. It was

only at the beginning of the last century that the quakes that shook the land have been studied and categorized. Four great earthquakes of magnitudes exceeding *M*8 have been witnessed in 1897, 1905, 1934 and in 1950 that caused great destruction. For example the great Bihar earthquake of 1934 on the Richter scale measured a staggering *M*8.4 and caused the death of approximately 11 000 people in the area. Another ten earthquakes exceeding *M*7.5 have occurred in the Himalayan Belt in the past 100 years. In 1988 Darjeeling and Gangtok were badly damaged when an *M*6.7 earthquake hit and 23 years earlier an *M*5.9 shattered the same cities. Even though Kalimpong has been saved in the past years from major destruction, research shows that activity is not only concentrated on these areas, but vary with every earthquake with high and low patches of activity.

The world's greatest topographic features, the Himalaya and the Tibetan plateau were born as a result of continent – continent

collision of the Indian and the Eurasia plates. This continuing northward collision of the Indian plate with respect to the Eurasian landmass causes the intense seismicity that is found in the area and most of the tension in the Himalayan region is concentrated along the shallow north dipping planes. This indicates, according to specialists in the field, the underthrusting of the Indian plate beneath the Eurasian plate. This movement caused by the collision between the two continent plates is known as Himalayan Frontal Thrust (HFT). Even with the reasons of earthquakes in the area known to specialists and with records of previous earthquakes to study, the prediction of earthquakes is a very unpredictable business. Due to lack of extensive research in the area, there is an enormous strain on estimating more precisely the reoccurrence intervals for a great earthquake and even the best minds in the business cannot produce anything

e^arthquake

concrete. The best estimates by various workers for great earthquakes on the basis of slip rate and palaeoseismology suggest reoccurrence interval ranging from 180 to 500 years. With such broad estimates, the people living in earthquake prone areas should become more aware and prepared.

Earthquakes

An earthquake is a phenomenon that results from and is powered by the sudden release of energy. The energy released produces four different seismic waves simultaneously and can be felt on the ground. The waves responsible for the shaking are P-waves (primary waves) and S-waves (secondary waves or shear waves). The other two types of surface waves are called Love-waves and Raleigh-waves. There are two classes of earthquake effects, described as direct and secondary effects. The direct effect is when the earth around the area where the earthquake happens is deformed, mostly through gaping cracks in the surface or sudden ground height alterations. But as many earthquakes never break the surface, the amount of damage inflicted by direct effects is usually a disturbance to the eye, when viewing the damage rather than the in human life or the wallet. A well-built house near the area of origin of the earthquake, called the seismogenic fault, can often escape major damage. Most of the damage inflicted by an earthquake is due to the secondary effects, which are not directly caused by fault movement, but which result from the spread of the seismic waves moving away from the seismogenic fault. These secondary effects are caused by the seismic waves moving through an area. When the seismic waves, mainly P-waves and S-waves, spread away from the seismogenic fault, they travel like ripples in a pond. The further you are from the centre of the earthquake, the weaker the waves become. The secondary effects can cause seismic-shaking, landslides, liquefaction and can trigger aftershocks and new earthquakes. Seismic-shaking is the violent side-to-side shaking, which has the capability and power to topple and destroy houses. In the water-saturated and soft soil areas the shaking causes the sand



grains to loose contact and friction with other grains. This phenomenon is called liquefaction and such ground has no strength and cannot bear any load. Landslides are commonly started when the soil layer on the side of a hill or a mountain liquefies during seismic shaking and flows down as a wall of mud. The power and destruction caused by these phenomena depends on the strength of the

tremor, the location and the depth in which it occurred. Other factors that effect include; the distance away from the centre of the earthquake, the path the waves take, the types of soil the waves encounter and also the quality of the constructions it passes through. The time of day as well as the preparedness of the people can have a tremendous impact on the amount of destruction. If one should hit during the busiest time of day, while everyone is busy at work or out on the streets, the loss of human life is said to multiple.

The possible destruction of secondary waves

The powerful side-to-side shaking on construction caused by the seismic-shaking has a tendency to bend the right angles found in houses to other angles. This process is called shear, which sturdily built houses can withstand depending on the power and length of the violent shaking. Scientists found that triangular shapes are best suitable for withstanding the most shears, but unfortunately the Egyptian-style architecture has not become fashionable here in Kalimpong. Reinforced concrete that only has vertical steel rods, designed to withstand the weight of the structure when the weight is distributed evenly and straight down, does not hold up to powerful tremors of a long-lasting earthquake. Around the world in earthquake prone areas construction codes have been implemented to include much more steel that is wound around the vertical steel rods horizontally to keep the column from breaking apart during the violent side-to-side shaking. As more steel is required to build these stronger fortified concrete columns, it is much more expensive than columns with only vertical steel rods. Another popular construction norm was to make a

e^a r t h q u a k e

strengthened foundation for the construction and weaker steel rods on the upper levels, to keep the weight and the strain applied to the base at a minimum. This common practise proved to be fatal in strong tremors, as the upper levels did not withstand the pressure applied to them during an earthquake and crushed everything and everyone on the lower levels. The location of houses is as important as building a sturdy well thought-out house. In all earthquakes, the low-lying areas with soft, water-saturated soils experience by far the most damage. Building a house founded on water-saturated and soft soils will liquefy during a tremor causing houses to lean or topple totally.

Kalimpong

The Government of West Bengal has issued building codes that are monitored and implemented by the Municipal Office of Kalimpong. The rules state that the height of the buildings should not exceed 11.5 m or four stories high. There are guidelines against building near the vicinity of jhoras. When planning to build a house here, one must follow protocol and present detailed plans to the Municipal Office, where the location and height of the future buildings must be described in detail. Once permission has been granted, the building process is monitored by the officials of the Municipal Office at regular intervals. So accordingly, there should be no buildings built near jhoras, or exceeding 11.5 m. But there are houses being built at this very moment, that exceeds the 11.5 m height limit, on locations with heavy streams running through them weakening the foundations with every passing litre of water. These houses will fall like a house of cards, when or if a major earthquake strikes. One does not need extensive knowledge in building or a measuring device to notice that these sorts of houses are being built. Why are the rules being broken so shamelessly? One possible answer to this question could be that there is corruption among the links of command, which by any standards is nothing new or surprising. But there is another



possible answer to this terrible question and that is that there is no-one who cares enough about the potential of building deathtraps, as the problem is out of sight, so then surely it is out of mind. Darjeeling and Gangtok have suffered in the past from destruction due to earthquakes, they know what it is like to see the awesome power of Mother Nature at work, but Kalimpong so far has been spared the true horror of widespread destruction. Earthquake prevention, which should start from conscious citizens, to choosing the safest locations for housing and using the safest materials and abiding by the rules, is not by any means cheap. Everything costs money, lots and lots of money. So it is easier to turn the other cheek and pretend the problem is not there. When or if it happens, the powers at be can turn to the emergency plan and sort out the mess, accordingly and with the utmost professionalism. Except that Kalimpong does not have an

emergency plan in the case of an earthquake. Kalimpong is luckier than most towns, as there is the army barracks up on the hill and in case of an emergency like an earthquake, the army will spare no expense or effort to come to the aid of the people of Kalimpong. The army has been reliable and willing to help in the past, but what happens when the hill the barracks is situated on becomes one liquefied mass of mud, water, trees and equipment thundering down the mountain? They will be in as much need of assistance as everyone else. So to which organisation should the residents turn for help? The Red Cross? The United Nations? Last year in October in the Kashmir region, the earthquake left in its wake a path of total destruction leaving nothing behind for the survivors to live on. The roads were washed away or blocked by landslides to prevent help from reaching the most badly effected areas until many days later. Even now, nearly a year later, the route is still difficult and the people are forced to live in tents even during the bitterly cold winter months and rebuilding has been painstakingly slow. Could that be the future of Kalimpong one day? Huddled in an old army tent in midwinter?

e^arthquake

The future in our hands

What Kalimpong needs to do, is to address the lacking state of preparedness. This town has been lucky in the past, but one day that luck might run out, so the people should at least be prepared and have some idea what to do, where to go. Even if prevention is expensive and a long process to organise everything, it must be started. Houses should be built firmer and according to the regulations, or at least away from running water. But everything must start from the conscious citizen, to push for an emergency plan, to prepare oneself and one's family by learning some basic recommendations on what to do when an earthquake does strike. That will perhaps spare a few more lives.

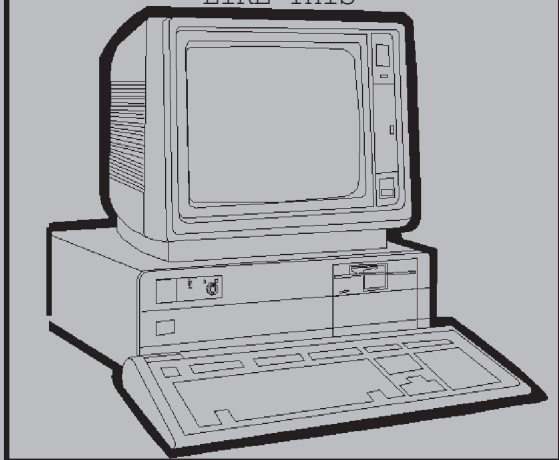


A few tips

If you are inside your house, when an earthquake happens - **STAY THERE**. Take cover under some heavy furniture, or brace yourself in a doorway. Exit carefully when shaking stops, as many things in your house have become loose and might cause harm.

If you are outside, when an earthquake happens - **STAY THERE**. Move to an open area away from buildings and power-lines. **DO NOT EXIT OR ENTER** a building during an earthquake. There is a danger of falling debris and flying glass. If you are in your car - **STOP** and **REMAIN** in the car. If possible avoid stopping near tall buildings. The car will protect you from flying debris. □

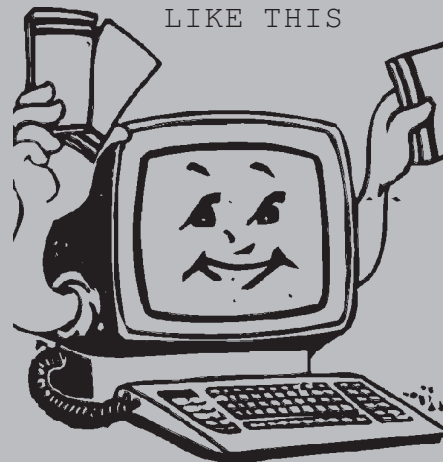
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DARJEELING Himalayan Times

Eight page
special section on
Darjeeling

WORD FROM THE TRAFFIC POLICE OF DARJEELING

The traffic scenario in Darjeeling today is much different from what it used to be 20 to 30 years ago. Vehicles have multiplied by a considerable extent. The infrastructure for parking space is poor. With the exception of the parking space available at the 'Old Supermarket; which can accommodate 80 vehicles, there have been no provisions at all for parking of vehicles. Matters are made worse by the increase in the number of vehicles from areas outside Darjeeling. Unless this problem be solved, no effective difference can be achieved in the traffic scenario.

However, as per action taken by the traffic police trucks for carrying water, their time for entry into the town is regulated between 7:30 am. - 10:00 am. in order to ensue smooth flow of traffic. In order to prevent road blockage and inconvenience to pedestrians, in small roads, parking of vehicles should be prohibited, small establishments should be dismantled.

Accidents have become common occurrences in Darjeeling and to avoid them, it is essential to educate the drivers about driving signals, keeping away from alcoholism. Medical fitness of drivers is of utmost importance. Vehicles should be mechanically conditioned. Proper care should be taken for improving the conditions of roads. Pedestrians must be advised to keep to the left.

In the condition that one is found guilty of violating the traffic rules, a penalty varying from Rs.50 to Rs.7000 can be imposed upon the driver and owner of the vehicle.

These are some of the precautions one should always take:

- (1) Always wear a helmet.
- (2) Switch your Mobile off.
- (3) Seat belts on.
- (4) Don't mix drinking and driving.
- (5) Use low beam at night.
- (6) Overtake with caution at night.
- (7) Get your vehicle regularly checked.

F U T U R E O F K A L I M P O N G



Miss Veedhya Chetty

Anne Marie Javouhey Scholarship Awardee-2005

All India Talent Scholarship Awardee- 2006

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Darjeeling

Early Political History



The District was part of the dominions of the Raja of Sikkim. In 1706 what is now the Kalimpong subdivision of the District was taken from the Raja of Sikkim by the Bhutanese. The Rajas later became engaged in unsuccessful struggles with the Gurkhas who had seized power in Nepali and invaded Sikkim in 1780. During the next 30 years they overran Sikkim as far east as the Tista and conquered and annexed the Tarai. In the meantime war broke out between the East India Company and the Nepalese at the end of which in 1817 by the treaty of Titaliya the tract which the Nepalese had wrested from the Raja of Sikkim was ceded to the Company. The Company restored the whole of the country between the Mechi and the Tista to the Raja and guaranteed its sovereignty. Sikkim was thus maintained as a buffer State between Nepal and Bhutan.

The District was included in the Rajshahi Division until October 1905 when, as a result of the Partition of Bengal, it was transferred to the Bhagalpur Division. With the rearrangement of the provinces it was retransferred to the Rajshahi Division in March 1912.

The district was formerly a non-regulation District, that is to say, Acts and Regulations did not come into force unless they were specially extended to the District. Darjeeling had no representative in the Legislative Council constituted under the Government of India Act 1919. It was excluded and declared a backward tract. The Administration of the District was not subject to vote of the Legislature. The effect of exclusion was that any Act passed by the Legislature which extended to the whole of Bengal automatically applied to the Darjeeling

District, unless the Government in Council directed that the Act in question should not apply or that it should apply subject to such notifications as the Governor thought proper.

As the District is a partially excluded area under section 92 of the Government of India Act 1935, no Act of the Provincial or Central Legislature applies to it unless the Governor by public notification so directs and the Governor in giving such a direction with respect to any Act may direct that the Act shall, in its application to this District, or to any specified part of it, have effect subject to such exception or modification as he thinks fit. □

Source:
(Bengal District Gazetteers
– Darjeeling)
– A.J. Dash, C.I.F.

CAMERA, LIGHTS, ACTION

By Smriti Rai

When we say “lights, camera, action”, it definitely leads us to the mental status where filming is in progress. But do we actually know about the technicalities of the entire process of FILM- MAKING to be specific?

Filming, for many of us in the hills, has just been a pushing of a record button on the camera, the man behind it announcing “Action”, and people in front of the camera, starting their activities. This has been going on ever since we came into producing our programs. However, giving it a second thought to the above mentioned point, we really do not have much choice regarding the usage of correct techniques and process in that area. We have always been filming on the basis of our own general interest, and of course techniques gathered through our own production experiences. And yet with all that, we still have to face the criticisms regarding the quality of the program we produce. **Darjeeling, Film, Music and Art Academy (D.F.M.A.A)**, had organized a five day WORKSHOP, relating to **Camera, Lights, Acting and Direction**, followed by the compilation of all the four on the last day.



It began from 3rd September, 2006 to 7th September, 2006, at the Red Cross Building, Darjeeling. The Camera and Lights section was handled by Mr. Bhuwan S. Bomjan (Delhi), and



relatively for the Acting and Direction, was Mr. Anjan Mukhopadhyay (Kolkata). This workshop was attended by the people from all walks of life, comprising

of students, media personalities and office going people. During this workshop they were given the basic training of Camera, Lights, Acting and Direction. They were taught to use the D-35 and PD – 170 cameras, along with the professional lights required for shooting indoors and outdoors. When the camera and lights were over, they moved to the second phase of the workshop, Acting and Direction. There they learnt role to be played by an actor and a director. They were also taught the essentials and requirements of a good direction and being a good actor. Eventually, on the last day, they were asked to compile and bring out whatever they had learnt, into a 1 minute film.

However, the five day workshop is never enough to learn about the entire details with matters to those subjects.

With the aim of giving the people of the hills the quality in productions, which they have always waited for, **Darjeeling, Film, Music and Art Academy (D.F.M.A.A)**, has been started with the objective of making the people of the hills to avail of trainings related with film and television. **D.F.M.A.A** has started their classes relating with acting, direction, video editing, camera and lights,

news reading, anchoring, etc. The teachers are renowned media personalities from **Darjeeling, Kolkata and Delhi**.

T R I R A T N A P R O D U C T I O N S



At Kalimpong Winter Fest



At Miss Kanchenjunga Contest



At an Anti-Drugs Rally

Tri Ratna Productions set up in 2004 – as a House for all aspiring talents in the fields of modelling, singing, dancing and acting. It aims at providing a suitable opportunity to the young boys and girls of Darjeeling Hills to display their talents and further their scope and thereby prevent the ‘Talent Drain’ from the Hills.

TRP made its debut at the Darjeeling Carnival in 2004 with the first open-air fashion show held at Chowrasta, followed by another at the Winter Fest, in Kalimpong, 2004. The models displayed different wear at also the Silver Jubilee Celebrations (2005), West Point School, Darjeeling and the Diwali and New Year eve’s shows at Gymkhana Club, 2005. The models have also appeared on the ramp of such as ‘Miss Kanchanjunga’ and ‘Mr. Himalaya’. The first music video produced by TRP will shortly hit the screen. The song ‘Saakaar Bhayena’ by Mr. Uttam Giri is from the film’s audio, starring Tri Ratna models.

TRP has also created its own Event Management and Advertising and Marketing unit which will cater exclusively to the needs of the local producers. Its first visual advertisement for the ‘Oracle magazine can now be seen on screen.

The scene is now set for the launch of its first major production – the first action-packed and exclusively local movie, ‘Ujyaloko Pratikshama’. Due for release on 6.10.06, in Darjeeling, the movie provides a puja bonanza. Directed by Badal Chhetri and produced by Mrs. D. Donglas, the lead pair – Mr. Suresh Gazmer and Miss Seema Thakuri (Miss Hills 2004) make their debut. Shot in the beautiful locales of Deolo and Relli, Namring, Pubung and Darjeeling, it promises happy viewing.

TRP aims at creating social awareness. In this regard, the unit also brought out a mock – funeral procession, carrying anti – smoking, anti ‘anti- drugs and anti – alcohol placards, and a coffin made of cigarette packets. The message was clear – Smoking Kills! Likewise, the film also has a message to convey to this viewers.

For all health lovers and body – conscious enthusiasts, TRP has some good news. Applied Nutrition Sciences, Bombay through TRP will now make their products available to the people of Darjeeling Hills such as Mass Gainer, Pro-mass etc for bodybuilders or vitamins/minerals for health conscious and “Burn it or Keep it off” for font losers.

In order to stimulate the interest of creative minded citizens of Darjeeling, the TRP now words in collaboration with Himalayan Times, Kalimpong, to bring out the Darjeeling section now in charge of Mr. SAI KISHORE, Managing Director, Tri Ratna Productions.

TRP has indeed achieved much in this very short span of time. What it basically strives to do is to promote new talents and provide suitable opportunities to those “unsung heroes” who have yet to make their mark in their field. It is with this principle in mind that the film was made – to highlight those talents which have as yet not been recognised and to import a message to the public that “Violence does not pay “TRP, this, is your very own production House – of the people, by the people and for the people of Darjeeling Hills. □

Fourth of July is a big deal for Americans. They remember the birth of their country.

Fourth of July is beginning to be a big deal for Hill people. They are beginning to celebrate the birth anniversary of a long forgotten pioneer.

Born on July 4, 1851, Padri Ganga Prasad Pradhan was not your regular *Darjeelingay*. While assisting Scottish missionaries with Bible translation work from English to Nepali, he was attentively grasping the workings of the publication world.

In due time, he was to buy the mission orphanage press, rename it "The Gorkha Press," and start a monthly publication called the "Gorkhe Khabar Kagat."

Commenced in 1901, "Gorkhe Khabar Kagat" became your monthly update of local, national, and international news. Older than Nepal's "Gorkhapatra," World War I reports, earthquakes in Myanmar, Darjeeling Hockey Cup account and random general knowledge information all found their places in the pages of this publication. From the available copies of "Gorkhe Khabar Kagat," it is estimated that an average of thirty-six news reports were included in one single issue.

Besides news reports, "Gorkhe Khabar Kagat," published home

Padri's Journalism "Gorkhe Khabar Kagat" Award to Priyadarshi

By Charisma K. Lepcha

rental adverts in Aalu Baari to matrimonial classifieds. It has been assumed that the publication could very well sustain itself from the ad revenues.

Publishing a collection of news reports with world wide coverage from a faraway hill station was highly commendable even for this day. In a way, "Gorkhe Khabar Kagat," had revolutionized the Nepali Journalism world. Padri Ganga Prasad Pradhan was to be the father of Journalism in the hills.

Unfortunately, he has been an inaccessible figure. People do not know much about him and he remains lost in the pages of history.

Accused of being a proselytizer because of translating the Bible, people stray from talking about his other contributions. But he was not just limited to religious translation work. He was a teacher, an author, a reporter, a poet, a lyricist and a pioneer in many ways.

Today, there is an attempt amongst teachers, authors, reporters, poets and lyricists to un-ignore the contributions of a man lost for more than a century.

On July 1, 2006, Kalimpong Sahitya Uthaan Samiti organized a program at the Ramkrishna Rangamanch (Town Hall) to celebrate the 155th Birth anniversary of Padri Ganga Prasad Pradhan.

It was where the first ever Padri Ganga Prasad Pradhan Journalism award was

presented to a reporter whose contribution in the Indian Nepali Journalism field was remarkably significant.

Having spent the last 26 years with news dailies, weeklies and monthly publications, the award was presented to Mr. Samiran Chhetri "Priyadarshi," a Darjeeling born reporter currently residing in Siliguri.

Thrilled on being the first recipient of this award, Priyadarshi called to honor the man who started it all. In conclusion of his acceptance speech, he urged the concerned crowd to revive the "Gorkhe Khabar Kagat."

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Karthak, Solon. 2001. *Padri Ganga Prasad Pradhan ko Jeewan Bakhan*, Kalimpong: Sarikar Prakashan, reprinted in 2002

Karthak, Solon. 2006. *Gorkhe Khabar Kagat ko Ubaru Khabar*, Kalimpong: Paper presented at the 155th Birth anniversary celebration of Padri Ganga Prasad Pradhan.

Readers in Darjeeling can send in their articles, poems, short stories
or any other write-up of local interest to
Mr. Saikishor, 1st Floor, Ajit Mansion, Chowrasta, Darjeeling Phone 98323 18819

FLASHBACK 2006

By Monisha Pradhan

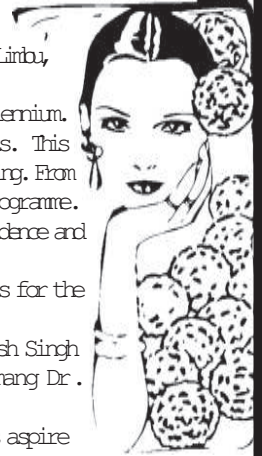
The "Flashback" concept in Darjeeling had its start in the year 2004. It was initiated by Raju Chettri, Sudip Lama, Binal Linbu, Gyanendra Thapa, Shiv Agarwal and Riwez Theang "over a cup of coffee".

It was desired to show the people about changing fashion over the year - from the 60's changing fashion over to the Millennium. Moreover, the youth of Darjeeling were also interested to contest among each other to gauge their abilities and talents. This competition is a permanent programme held annually, its aim being to provide a platform for the rich talents of Darjeeling. From the second year of the contest, two active members Anita Agarwal and Shova Moktan were also involved with this programme. Apart from Mr. Flashback and Miss Flashback, Fashion shows for children are also organized, in order to build up confidence and develop personality of these tender minds.

Mr. Flashback 2006 and Miss Flashback 2006 was held at Gynkhana Club on the 10th of September. The Chief Guests for the event were:

Deputy Magistrate, Mr. Sonam Wangdi Bhutia, Mr. Pranay Rai, MA, Darjeeling and the Guests of Honour - Mr. M. Keshav Singh Acharya and Mr. Subhash Moktan. The contest was judged by Mrs. Nimmi Chettri, Mr. Yogdip. Gurung, Mrs. Shikha Tamang Dr. Mrs. Pema Sen, Mr. Milan Tamang.

Vivek Prasad was crowned Mr. Flashback and Karala Chettri as Miss Flashback by the previous Flashback winners aspire to achieve greater heights in their modelling career.



GEORGIAN ASSOCIATION MILITARY SCHOOL BANGALORE

PB 25040 Museum Road, Hosur Road, Bangalore 560025

Phone 080-25554972

Website: www.georgianbangalore.com Association Phone :080-25573294

Committee Members- Lt. Col. OPN Kalyan, Lt. Col. D. Banerjee, Lt. Col. SK Rathore, Hemanth Acharya, P. Saravanan, Anand Kumar J, Manoj Kumar

Dear Friends,

It's a matter of great pride that Military School Bangalore (erstwhile King George School) a Public School, has come into its own in fulfilling its mission of being the "Nursery of Leadership". This school was reorganized to meet this lofty ideal in the late 50's and in the last five decades, the Old Boys have lived up to the aspirations of their "Alma Mater" by reaching the pinnacle of leadership in their chosen field.

In the Defence Services we have Nine Serving Generals/ Vice Admiral/ Air Vice Marshal, in addition to a number of retired Generals. We are also very proud of having a Secretary to the Government of India, IAS & IPS Officers and CEO Vodaphone. Many others have brought laurels to the School by their achievements in political, business and corporate arena.

It would be interesting to note that 70% of the students of the school are sons of serving and retired soldiers, sailors and Airmen who have made great sacrifices in the service of our country. Majority of the students join the Defence Services.

The Old Boys Association have made significant contribution to the school in nurturing this leadership and Excellence in various spheres by holding National / State level competitions in Debate, Basketball, sponsoring Adventure activities etc.

2006 is the Diamond Jubilee year of the school and the Association with help the school is celebrating 60 years of the school, in a befitting manner by sponsoring a number of activities. Our major fund raising effort, for all activities, will be through the Georgian Magazine, published exclusively by the Old Boys Association.

We request generous contribution for advertisements for the "Georgian Magazine".

Half Page (Black & White) Rs. 6000.00

Cheque / DD drawn in favour of "Georgian Association Military School, Bangalore", should be forwarded along with advertisement materials / photograph, which is clear and can be computer scanned, latest by 20th October 2006.

(Brig. P. Abraham)
President

The President,
Georgian Association, Military School, PB No. 25040, Museum Road PO
Bangalore.

In response to your appeal we are pleased to release Half page advertisement in your souvenir. I / We enclose herewith our cheque / DD for Rs. Six Thousand and the text for publication.

Name & Address.....

.....
.....

Fish....

but be a sport

■ Anurag Basnet

The perfect balmy sunshine of October, the excesses of the rainy season have long ceased, yet the deluge has left behind emerald green terraces of rice almost too bright to look at. The Relli river has lost its treacherous aspect. The dahas and pools are the perfect temperature for a dip. You come out shivering from the and the gentle sundries you up and comforts you soon enough. The day is perfect for fishing.

You take your line and tackle or if you are more staunchly Nepali your dhadiya and furlung net and start the long trek upstream. You look for deep pools and shady nooks and crannies beneath rocks casting the line or the net hoping to outfox the bhatti, the chucche saur or the katle and when you finally manage to net one it is a triumph worth savouring. On the rapids where the river squeezes between massive boulders, you set up your dhadiya-a sieve like trap made of bamboo bark and leave it overnight. As you trek up the stream, the realization slowly dawns that the fish are worthy adversaries. Work a pool once and it is very rare that you make a catch there again. Fishing builds patience like no other activity.

The net, carefully poised in the crook of the arm spreads gracefully as it is thrown in with a flourish. The lead pellets at the edges drag the net down and make it into a bag as you haul it in. You examine the catch. The small fry go back into the river. They will multiply, repopulate the river. The shrimp go back too for you are after the big ones. The bigger ones you keep for the pot. Yet the going is not as easy as it sounds. After maybe a couple or maybe even three hours of trekking upstream you have caught only six or seven medium sized fish. As you travel the stream you come to know it more intimately, its shallows and the deeper, more dangerous pools where the truly big fish lurk, veterans of every human wile. And when you have collected enough for the pot

you find a shaded spot where you can cook.

You gut and clean the fish, stuff it with onions, ginger, garlic and coriander paste. Wrapping it securely in banana leaves, bury the fish in the embers of a wood fire and 20 minutes later you have a gastronomic experience to rival the best that any five star hotel has on offer in an ambience no hotel can ever hope to match. And before you eat you offer a piece to the river, a gracious

Sure enough, someone has dumped a bagful of bleaching powder or DDT further upstream. If on some days it is the chlorine, on others it is the chugging of the internal combustion engine that disturbs your reverie-somebody is using a generator or even car batteries to electrocute the pool. The result is the same. Wholesale slaughter of fish, frogs, tadpoles, shrimp, just about anything that swims in the vicinity.

Firstly this is unsportsman like conduct. The fish just don't stand a chance-nor do any of the myriad creatures. Secondly the people who do this do not do it for food or sport. Their motive is for psychologists to determine preferably with degrees in sadism! They do not collect all the fish that they have killed so that the carcasses remain in the river polluting it. Thirdly, and most importantly, is the immense harm being done to the environment?

The disastrous effect that such indiscriminate carnage has on the riverine ecosystem where every organism is interconnected can well be imagined. It's a scientific fact that as we move up the food chain, the concentration of toxins. At the top of the food chain is man. The conclusion is inevitable. Also, at the last check dumping bleaching powder into rivers and eating poisoned fish wasn't high on the list for ways and means to build sound bodies and beautiful minds.

The imbecilic way in which we are wasting this natural resource is just an index of how unaware we are of the richness of the place we inhabit and the fact that it is not infinitely renewable. We

also overlook the fact that conserved properly, the river can be a great site for advertised tourist attraction.

The river will always be there for us. It just remains to be seen how well we treat it. ■



gesture of
thanks from a
guest to a host.

As you eat, a curious smell of chlorine seems to pervade the atmosphere. Soon fish of all sizes from the spawning adults to the smallest fry float belly up on the river.

FAC TS ON DARJEELING

Extracted from the popular book
Fallen Cicadas written by
Barun Roy & Sanjay Das

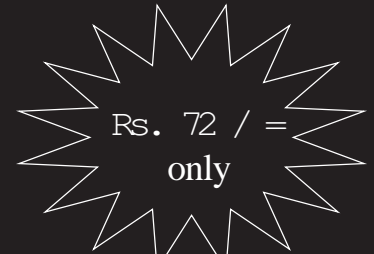
The 10th May 1922 issue of 'Darjeeling Advertiser' published a rather interesting story of a animal rampaging around the heart of Darjeeling. The story is thus:

7th May Darjeeling: the entire town today was witness to the madness of an animal which caused many injuries and loss of property. Spotted at the very dawn, among the dense foliage surrounding the St. Paul's School by native milkmen, the animal as big as a wide buffalo upon being hit by stones ran down towards the residential areas. In a short period it was at the very heart of Chowrasta where it drank from the fountain near the Bellevue Hotel causing great havoc among the populace. Mr. Price who had then been leaving for Lebong miraculously escaped when the beast running down toward Lebong nearly ran over him. A poor native labourer meanwhile was not that luckily as the beast hit him throwing him far away, perhaps as far as 20 feet. The residents of the Busty meanwhile ran to protect themselves. It was only at the foot of the hill when the beast disappeared towards the Phootshering Tea Estate that Mr. Price was able to take a good look at it. The beast was a massive rhinoceros that had appeared out nowhere. Incidentally, two of the most well known hunters of the Doars valley Mr. Ward Wilson and Mr. Pascal were present at the Damried Hotel in Darjeeling and upon being impressed into service shot the rampaging rhinoceros at the Phootshering Tea Estate. The rampaging rhinoceros left fifteen wounded and numerous houses and shed thoroughly destroyed.



How should i know
where all the
development funds
have gone??? I am
sure you had put it
right there in your
pocket when you had
left office in the
morning!!!

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Expression!!!

RANDOM THOUGHTS

Bhawani Bagdas

During the darkest hour my life
 Resulting from the turmoil
 And turbulence of my perturbed mind,
 Afflicted with the unfulfilled longings
 And cravings of my life,
 For many a thing of illusion
 Of this mundane world
 In such a situation,
 When I close my eyes
 Constantly thinking and meditating
 On your Cosmic – form,
 I perceive a bright silver-lining
 In a form of illumination
 Of peace and tranquility
 Emanating from the deep sky of my heart
 And penetrating beyond the dark veil
 Of depression pervading my mind,
 Then I feel an eternal peace
 And bask in the encompassing warm
 Rays of cosmic light of your presence.

YOUR FRIENDSHIP

Rahul Sinha,
 Saptashri Gyanpeeth.

Your friendship is the sky above my home,
 The crystal air I breathe, through which I see.
 I can't believe how much you mean to me.
 Without you with me, time would turn to stone.
 I don't know why I need you so, or how
 I know so absolutely I'll be there
 In times your wounded heart can hardly bear.
 I only know this truth is with me now.

Why is in our lives that we need friends
 To be awake and fully what we are?
 Alone we dream but never cross the bar,
 With you I share a grace that never ends.

ht friends

Miss Rita Gurung
 Kalimpong
 9832478616

Miss Reshika Singh
 Kalimpong
 9832478277

Miss Srijana Subba
 Mangal Dara, Kalimpong
 9932535380

Himalayan Times takes no responsibility for the accuracy of the details furnished by persons whose names appear in this column. Readers are advised to make appropriate enquiries before getting in touch with those whose names appear in this column.

You may send in your name, age, phone number and address alongwith the coupon given below to "The Editor, Himalayan Times, Post Box. 49, Kalimpong" to have your name printed in this column.

Brain? Teasers

With
Suraj Mani Pradhan



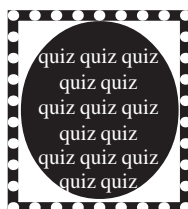
1. Where are all the antique belongings of the Damsong fort kept after its destruction?
2. Who is the Film maker from Kalimpong who had made the controversial movie called "New Delhi Times"??
3. Who is the author of the popular book "KPG Calling"??
4. Who wrote the play " Ani Bhalay Mungroh Runcha" ??
5. Name the person from Kalimpong who worked in the Kamala Circus from 1951 to 1956. He also worked with Chandralekha Circus and Gemini Circus??

Answers to questions in the
last issue

1. Dr. S.B.Wangyel
2. Ganga Prasad Pradhan
3. Ang Tshering Sherpa
- 4.D.B.Pariyar
5. Tripti Nadkar

Rush in your entries alongwith the coupon below to our office latest by 25th of October 2006 to win a sleek Parker Pen.

**Ad Venture
Creations
Maa Super Market
Kalimpong**



Jumble jumble

NAMMGAT

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SUGGURND

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HAPDRINK

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SHESHGNIG

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ROWBUDANA

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{hint: local politicians(past &present)}

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Complete the above Jumble and send in your entry with the coupon given below by the 25th of October 2006 to win a free lunch for two at **Soods Garden Retreat, Kalimpong**. The correct answers for the jumble published in the last issue are

**PARK, NIMTO,STURDUST, GLENARYS,
HASTY TASTY & DAPHE MUNAL**

The winner will be decided by a draw of lots. The names of all those who sent in correct answers for the jumble in the last issue are Girish Mothay, Subash Dangal, Reshmi Soonar, Pratap Golay, Chunky Lhamu, Sudarshan Adhikari, Sonam Tshering, Dip P. Gurung, Sunil Pradhan, Samip Rai, Delip Gupta, Md. Ali, Sashank Gurung, Dechen Lhamu, Saugata Ghose, Dina Limbu, Sarika Rizal, Sushma Chhetri, Kishor Agndembay, Stephen Rai, Tshering Norzom, Gyatri Tamang, Ranu Suberi, Soni Khati, Dilkumari, Hamid Quareshi, Shivani Ratna, Daniel Bhusal, Nirmal Thapa, and the lucky winner is –

ADVOCATE GLADYS BOMZON

Please submit your entry in a plain sheet of paper alongwith this coupon. Please do not tear this page to submit your entry.



READ THIS BEFORE YOU SMOKE ANOTHER CIGARETTE

The Deadly Chemicals in Cigarettes Smoke

The chemicals in cigarettes comprise over 4,000 cigarette chemicals, including many poisons in cigarettes.

Cigarettes contain 43 known cancer-causing (carcinogenic) compounds and 400 other known toxins. Cigarette smoke is deadly.

The Environmental Protection Agency could arrest you for putting these poisons in cigarettes into the ground, yet tobacco advertising urges you to breathe them!

Smoking cigarettes means small amounts of these awful chemicals in cigarettes are spread around and stored in every tissue and call in your body where they can speed up the growth of cancer cells and degenerative diseases.

Filters do not remove these chemicals in cigarettes. They are just a marketing ploy to trick you into thinking you are smoking a safer cigarette. Most of the chemicals inhaled in cigarette smoke stay in the lungs.

Cancer causing chemicals are added to improve the bitter taste of tobacco.

A chemical similar to rocket fuel helps keep the tip of the cigarette burning hot.



Ammonia, sucrose, cocoa, and citric acid are added to cigarettes to help nicotine vapour be absorbed through your lungs more quickly to speed the nicotine 'hit'.

Increasing the impact of nicotine by adding ammonia, called 'free-basing', which is similar to the chemical process used to heighten the effects of cocaine.

Fungicides and pesticides help to prolong the shelf life of cigarettes. These can cause many types of cancers and birth defects.

Some chemicals in cigarettes are added to make you better able to tolerate toxic amounts of cigarette smoke, with the intent to keep you addicted to nicotine.

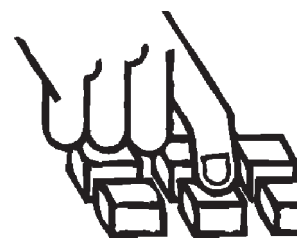
More of the Nasty Chemicals in Cigarettes Smoke

Acetone is one of the chemicals in cigarettes.

Acetone is used as a solvent, for example in nail polish remover and various other Industrial and other uses.

COMPUTERS
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ADVERTISE IN THE
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AN ADVERTISEMENT

THEIR WORDS OUR VOCABULARY

By Dr.S.B. Wangyel

In this essay I would like to consider some alien words used in the army. Sometime previously I mentioned that the words 'paltan' and 'santry' came from the English platoon and sentry and it appears that the English language has quite a few contribution. 'Kaptan', 'Mayjar', 'Karnel', 'Brigayder', and 'Jarnel' are all contributions from that distinguished language. Other words like 'tenshun' (attention), 'standaees' (stand at ease) or 'lefright' (left right) are no more in currency having been replaced by our own phrases/commands. 'Military' (military), 'grinate' (grinade), 'battalin' (battalion), 'rungroot' (recruit) and similar words are interesting but they hardly excite our minds and so we must move away from English to languages closer to us. A good word to commence would be 'sipahi' which the sahibs pronounced it as 'sepoy'. The word was always used to describe a native soldier and never a European. It comes to us from the Persian 'sipahi' which in turn came from 'sipah' meaning an army. A sergeant in the 'sipahi' is called a 'hawildar' and this again comes to us from the Persian 'hawala-dar': a person holding a position of trust (hawal, position of trust; dar, holder). In this connection it might be appropriate to mention that most Nepali words that end with '-dar' are of Persian origin. This therefore should immediately call to our mind 'jamdar' and 'subedar'. The term 'jamdar', the lowest commissioned officer in the army, is once again of Persian (also Arabic) descent where 'jama' (notice the similarity with the Nepali 'jamma' or total) means an aggregate and 'dar' as already mentioned, a holder. So he is a holder of an aggregate or leader of a body of soldiers. For the Arabic etymology we have 'jama-at' meaning an assemblage, which is very much the same as the Persian. The 'subedar' is one rank higher than our 'jamadar' and this term too seems to have traveled all the way from ancient Persia. By now you must have guessed that a 'subedar' must be a person who is a holder of a 'souba' or 'suba' or a large province. Consequently, a 'subedar' would substitute for a Governor or the Chief Officer of a large locality. Unfortunately, in the Nepali and Indian army he holds a position only a rung above the humble 'jamadar'. The uniform the 'sipahi' wears is called 'khaki' and this term too came from Persia. The Persian for earth and dust is 'khak' from which we got our 'khaki' and it so appropriately describes the colour of the uniform. It would be of interest to you that khaki, as a uniform, was worn only by the Punjab Regiment and only became popular, and eventually universal, following the Sepoy Mutiny/First war of Independency. Our term for the standard firearm carried by the 'sipahi' is 'bundook' and the word come to us from the Arabic 'bunduk' (plural 'banadik) which were filberts (nuts) imported from Venice (Banadik). The name was transferred to nut-like pellets shot from crossbows and thence to the bow, 'kaus al-banduk' or the elliptical pellet bow. It then took to mean matchlocks and muskets and finally 'banddook' became a term to denote all kinds of guns.

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